

# MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND COMMISSION ON VETERANS AFFAIRS ANNUAL REPORT 2017

*“Advocating for Veterans & Their Families”*



**Daniel J. Bullis, *Chairman***

**Randy Stone, *Vice-Chairman***

**Isiah Leggett, *County Executive***



# MEMBERSHIP LIST 2016 - 2017

## VETERANS REPRESENTATIVES

Henry Bockman, Veteran  
 Daniel Bullis, Disabled American Veterans  
 James Campbell, Military Officers Association of America  
 Octavia Dixon, Veterans of Foreign Wars  
 Ron Drach, Veteran  
 Bob Koffman, Veteran  
 Elizabeth (Jane) McCarthy, American Legion  
 Wayne Miller, Disabled American Veterans  
 Randy Stone, American Legion

## GENERAL PUBLIC MEMBERS

Josephine Bahn  
 Dan Bolling  
 Susan Webman  
 Vacancy

## EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Michael L. Subin, Office of the County Executive  
 Joanna L. Starling, Montgomery College  
 Jameelah Johnson, Dept. of Health & Human Services  
 Vacancy - Department of Economic Development

## NON-VOTING CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Austin Morris, Office of Senator Chris Van Hollen

## STAFF

Betsy Luecking, Community Outreach Manager  
 Carly Clem, Administrative Specialist I

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Letter of Transmittal</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>DC VA Community-Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC)</b>	<b>4 - 5</b>
<b>How to Enroll in VA Healthcare</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>VA Announces Rollout of Veterans ID Card</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Commission on Veterans Affairs Policy Priorities FY18</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>County Veteran Timeline 2009 to 2017</b>	<b>9 - 12</b>
<b>Snapshot of Veterans Behavioral Health Services</b>	<b>13 - 14</b>
<b>VA Silver Spring Vet Center Services</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinic at Easterseals</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Key Contacts for the VA and Other Resources</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs Resources</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Montgomery County, MD Employment Data on Hiring of Veterans, Disabled Veterans, and People with Disabilities</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Projected Number of Veterans in Montgomery County, Maryland</b>	<b>20 - 21</b>
<b>Projected Number of Veterans in Maryland</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) Information</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Connect with the Commission</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Commission Presentations for 2016 - 2017</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>How to Contact Your County Elected Officials</b>	<b>24</b>

# LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL



## COMMISSION ON VETERANS AFFAIRS

November, 2017

Via Letter of Transmittal Electronically to:

The Honorable Isiah Leggett, Montgomery County Executive

The Honorable Roger Berliner, President, Montgomery County Council

Uma S. Ahluwalia, Director, Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services

The Commission on Veterans Affairs is pleased to present a summary of its activities for the past year. We continue to advise and consult with you on issues of concern to the estimated over 42,000 Veterans, and their families, who live in the County. Under your leadership and with your support, the Commission is mandated to research, assemble, analyze and disseminate information that will assist in meeting the needs of Veterans and their families.

The Commission is extremely proud to have been granted authorization to proceed with the plans and action to establish a memorial honoring the 131 Montgomery County citizens who were killed while serving in Vietnam War. Current plans are to dedicate this memorial in 2018.

Since 2009, the Commission had been advocating along with Senator Chris Van Hollen's and Senator Ben Cardin's office to have the Veterans Administration (VA) open a VA Community-Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) in the County. We anticipate that the District of Columbia VA Medical Center will open a CBOC in the County in early 2018 and it will be located at 15810 Gaither Road, Gaithersburg, MD.

We continue to encourage cooperation, coordination and collaboration among all agencies and non-profits that serve Veterans so that our community works together to honor and provide the best services possible to Veterans and their families. We have established a close relationship with Serving Together which is a resource and referral source for Veterans and their families. The Office of Human Resource's merit hiring initiatives has led to as of October, 2017 the County's hiring of 221 Veterans, including 16 who have a disability.

We are pleased with the County's efforts to end homelessness amongst Veterans and to assist in obtaining permanent housings with the Zero:16 campaign. Montgomery County has been the direct recipient of 98 HUD VASH vouchers and an additional 25 ported HUD VASH vouchers from DC and other states. We are working to increase outreach to the general Veteran population regarding programs, services and enrollment in VA Health Benefits. We are supporting Veterans through our Veterans Education Partnership which includes Montgomery College Combat to College, Universities at Shady Grove and the University of Maryland Terp Vets.

We wish to recognize and give our personal thanks to all Commissioners, the many community members, and the agency staff who participate in our meetings for their commitment and dedication. We would like to acknowledge DHHS Director Uma Ahluwalia for her role in meeting with the Boards, Commissions and Committees to keep us informed of important health and human services issues, Dr. Jay Kenney, Chief, Aging and Disability Services, Betsy Tolbert Luecking, Community Outreach Manager, and Carly Clem, Administrative Specialist, for their outstanding support in providing the Commission with the resources needed to carry out our mission. This report is the result of our combined efforts.

It has been a pleasure to work with you and members of the Commission during our term of service. We are confident that you will continue to support the Commission's efforts to enhance the lives of our Veterans. Our meetings are open to the public, and we invite you to join us for any meeting.

Handwritten signature of Daniel J. Bullis in black ink.

Daniel J. Bullis, Chairman

Sincerely,



Handwritten signature of Randy Stone in black ink.

Randy Stone, Vice-Chairman

# DC VA COMMUNITY-BASED OUTPATIENT CLINIC (CBOC)

**VA**



**U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**

Veterans Health Administration  
Washington DC VA Medical Center  
Montgomery County Community Based  
Outpatient Clinic

**Coming to Montgomery County in early 2018**

Location: 15810 Gaither Road

Gaithersburg, MD 20877

VA Outpatient PACT Clinic

Primary Care • Mental Health

Telehealth • Audiology Services



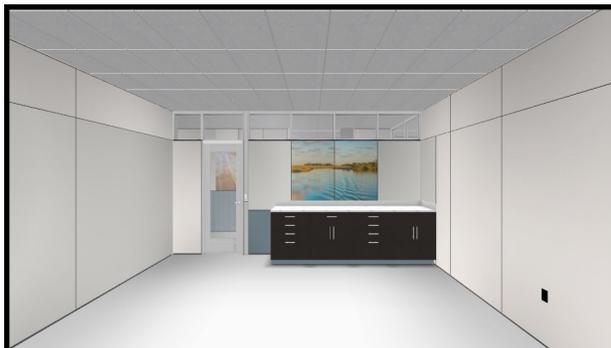
## 3D Renderings



**Classroom**



**Hallway**



**Group Therapy Room**



**Staff Lounge**

*Courtesy of Intellistruct, Division of Bialek Environments*

## What is PACT?



### What is the Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT)?

The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) began implementation of the patient centered medical home model (PCMH), now known as PACT (Patient Aligned Care Team), in the beginning of FY10. The overall goal of the initiative is to transform the VA health care delivery system to one providing more patient-centric care. As primary care is the foundation of VHA healthcare, the transformation begins with primary care and permeates other areas of the healthcare delivery system to include specialty care, women's health care, geriatrics, and academic training programs. Long-term goals of the initiative are:

- ✿ to provide superb access to primary care (including alternatives to face-to-face care) to meet Veteran needs and expectations;
- ✿ to provide seamless coordination of care between VA providers and with non-VA providers;
- ✿ to demonstrate a patient-centered culture through the redesign of primary care practices and team roles.

PACT focuses on:

- ✿ partnerships with Veterans
- ✿ access to care using diverse methods
- ✿ coordinated care among team members
- ✿ team-based care, with Veterans at the center of their PACT

In the Patient Aligned Care Team, each Veteran works together with health care professionals to plan for whole-person care and life-long health and wellness. The care team considers all aspects of patient health, with an emphasis on prevention and health promotion. Care is coordinated through collaboration. All members of the team have clearly defined roles with a focus on forging trusted personal relationships; the result is coordination of all aspects of health care. PACT uses a team-based approach. The patient is the center of the care team that includes family members, caregivers, and health care professionals—a primary care provider, nurse care manager, clinical associate, and administrative clerk. When other services are needed to meet patient goals and needs, the PACT oversees and coordinates that care.

Source: [https://www.visn4.va.gov/VISN4/CEPACT/what\\_is\\_pact.asp](https://www.visn4.va.gov/VISN4/CEPACT/what_is_pact.asp)

# HOW TO ENROLL IN VA HEALTHCARE

There are 42,000 Veterans living in the County and only an estimated 8,000 are enrolled in the VA Healthcare system. Given that the County will be having its first Community Based Outpatient Clinic in early 2018, the Commission on Veterans Affairs ([www.montgomerycountymd.gov/veterans](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/veterans)) is encouraging Veterans to enroll now. The very first step in obtaining access to your VA Health Benefits is to apply for enrollment.

Currently, Veterans who served in a theater of combat operations after November 11, 1998, can complete applications for enrollment in VA health care by telephone without the need for a signed paper application. All other Veterans could apply by phone effective July 5, 2016.

When Veterans choose to enroll, VA offers an enhancement to their enrollment experience through "Welcome to VA" (W2VA). W2VA enhances communication by reaching out to newly enrolled Veterans through personal phone calls upon enrollment, providing assistance with health care inquiries and assisting with their initial appointment at their preferred VA healthcare facility. In addition, VA sends each new enrollee an introductory letter and personalized Veterans Health Benefits Handbook in the mail. For more information about the Veterans Health Benefits Handbook, visit [www.va.gov/HEALTHBENEFITS/vhbh/index.asp](http://www.va.gov/HEALTHBENEFITS/vhbh/index.asp).

## Here are the convenient ways to apply for enrollment:

### By Telephone

The telephone application option is a more convenient way to apply for enrollment, and eliminates the need for a signed paper application.

- VA staff members will collect the needed information and process the enrollment application for an enrollment determination.
- To apply, call 1-877-222-VETS (8387), Mon-Fri between 8am and 8pm, EST.

### Apply in Person

You may apply in person at your local VA health care facility.

- Complete the healthcare application online.
- For more information about the application process, visit [www.va.gov/healthbenefits/apply/application\\_process.asp](http://www.va.gov/healthbenefits/apply/application_process.asp).
- You will also receive information about the appeals process, if you do not agree with the enrollment decision.

### By Mail

Pick up an application at your local VA or download, print, and fill out the 10-10EZ, Application for Health Care.

Complete the application (be sure to sign it) and mail to:

Health Eligibility Center  
2957 Clairmont Road, Suite 200  
Atlanta, GA 30329-1647

### Apply Online

Fill out the application online and electronically submit it to VA for processing. No need for additional documents to verify military service. If you were recently discharged, we will get your military information for you.

- To complete the healthcare application, visit [www.vets.gov/healthcare/apply](http://www.vets.gov/healthcare/apply).
- Once you complete the application, you may submit your application online.
- You will immediately receive a confirmation message notifying you that your application has been received.
- A signature is not required for online registration.
- For more information about the application process, visit [www.va.gov/healthbenefits/apply/application\\_process.asp](http://www.va.gov/healthbenefits/apply/application_process.asp).
- You will also receive information about the appeals process, if you do not agree with the enrollment decision.

### Obtaining an Appointment:

You may request a doctor's appointment when you apply for enrollment by checking 'yes' to the question asking if you want an appointment on the application. An appointment will be made with a VA doctor or provider and you will be notified via mail of the appointment. If you need health care before your scheduled appointment, you may contact the Enrollment Coordinator, Urgent Care Clinic or the Emergency Room at your local VA.

### Required Signature

When you apply in person or by mail, you or the person acting as your Power of Attorney must sign and date the form. If your Power of Attorney signs and dates the form you must submit a copy of the Power of Attorney with the form. If you sign with an "X", then two people that you know must witness you as you sign the form. They must also sign and print their names on the form.

# VA ANNOUNCES ROLLOUT OF VETERANS ID CARD

Press Release - November 29, 2017

WASHINGTON — Today the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced that the application process for the national Veterans Identification Card (VIC) is now available for Veterans — yet another action honoring their service.

This has been mandated through legislation since 2015 to honor Veterans, and today’s rollout of the ID card fulfills that overdue promise.

Only those Veterans with honorable service will be able to apply for the ID card, which will provide proof of military service, and may be accepted by retailers in lieu of the standard DD-214 form to obtain promotional discounts and other services where offered to Veterans.

“The new Veterans Identification Card provides a safer and more convenient and efficient way for most Veterans to show proof of service,” said VA Secretary Dr. David J. Shulkin. “With the card, Veterans with honorable service to our nation will no longer need to carry around their paper DD-214s to obtain Veteran discounts and other services.”

The VIC provides a more portable and secure alternative for those who served the minimum obligated time in service, but did not meet the retirement or medical discharge threshold. Veterans who served in the armed forces, including the reserve components, and who have a discharge of honorable or general (under honorable conditions) can request a VIC.

To request a VIC, Veterans must visit [vets.gov](https://www.va.gov), click on “[Apply for Printed Veteran ID Card](#)” on the bottom left of the page and sign in or create an account.

Veterans who apply for a card should receive it within 60 days and can check delivery status of their cards at [vets.gov](https://www.va.gov). A digital version of the VIC will be available online by mid-December.

Source: <https://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=3979>



**Commission on Veterans Affairs Policy Priorities FY18  
Meeting with B/C/C and HHS Committee of County Council  
October 18, 2017**

**Dan Bullis, Chairman  
Randy Stone, Vice-Chairman**

- 1) **Plan for the Vietnam War Memorial to be dedicated on Memorial Day 2018 at Wheaton Veterans Park.** The Vietnam Memorial Project Subcommittee was formed and has met several times at the Wheaton Veterans Park to discuss possibilities of installing a Vietnam Memorial. The park setting is very peaceful and has the potential to include other war memorials. A letter was sent recently to County Executive Isiah Leggett requesting his support in establishing a Vietnam War Memorial in the existing Wheaton Veterans Park and he approved of this request. The memorial will recognize those 131 fallen heroes who died during service in Vietnam as well as our County's Vietnam Veterans and their families.
- 2) **Plan with the DC/VA Medical Center for the opening of the Montgomery County Community Based Outpatient Clinic which is scheduled to open in December, 2017.** Commission has been meeting with VA representatives to receive updates on the Community-Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC). The Department of Defense is interested in leasing out the rest of the building and installing a clinic. The CBOC estimated opening date is December, 2017.

## COUNTY VETERAN TIMELINE 2009 TO 2017

Montgomery County's Commission on Veterans Affairs supports various County initiatives and organizations that support Veterans and their families during their transition to the civilian workforce and beyond. Its accomplishments include:

1. County Executive Isiah Leggett had Bill 23-08, Commission on Veterans Affairs - Establishment introduced before the County Council on June 10, 2008 and it was enacted July 22, 2008. He signed it into law to be effective November 3, 2008. The first Commission meeting took place on March 16, 2009.
2. In June, 2009 family members came to the Commission meeting and requested the help of the Commission in renaming the Rockville Library to Rockville Memorial Library. These family members that attended were Richard and Lee Ann Doerflinger – son Army Specialist Thomas Doerflinger killed in Mosul, Iraq on Veteran's Day November 11, 2004, Paula Davis – son Private First Class Justin Ray Davis. U.S. Army killed on June 25, 2005 in Afghanistan, Tom and Carol Barbieri – son Army Specialist Thomas Joseph Barbieri II, 82nd Airborne Division, killed on August 23, 2006 south of Baghdad Iraq, and Nikki Bunting, wife of Captain Brian "Bubba" Bunting, U.S. Army, killed on February 24, 2009 in Kandahar, Afghanistan, and her sister Tracey Paul all expressed their strong belief that to honor their family members, they request that the Rockville Library be renamed to the Rockville Memorial Library, to honor fallen soldiers. A formal ceremony marking the official renaming of the Rockville Library to the Rockville Memorial Library was held on Friday, May 28, 2010 at 11 a.m. in the front of the building at 21 Maryland Ave., Rockville. On November 10, 2009, Montgomery County Executive Ike Leggett signed a proclamation declaring that the name of the library be changed to honor "those who have given their lives defending the principles of freedom [during every military conflict since the County was created in 1776] and will be deserving of the highest gratitude and honor by the people of Montgomery County." It is fitting that this magnificent library stand in name and purpose as a tribute to the memory of the brave women and men from Montgomery County who gave their lives so that we and future generations may enjoy the benefits of such a facility," said Leggett who is a Vietnam Veteran, having commanded U.S. and South Vietnamese troops in field combat during his tour of duty in 1968-69.
3. The County Council passing legislation in 2009 for the County's hiring preference for people with disabilities and Veterans including disabled Veterans. As of November, 2017 the County has hired 221 Veterans including 16 disabled Veterans.
4. The Warrior Canine Connection program of Walter Reed (<http://warriorcanineconnection.org/>) made a presentation to the Commission and at the time they were located in Brookville, but had been told it needed to relocate. Mike Subin assisted the program in accessing DNR property and is now located at 14934 Schaeffer Road, Germantown, MD.
5. The Veterans Education Partnership, which was established by the work of the Commission, and working to increase outreach to the general veteran population regarding programs and services including supporting veterans at the Montgomery College Combat to College Program, Universities at Shady Grove Veterans Services and the University of Maryland Terp Vets.
6. The Commission continues its fight against Veteran homelessness through its support of Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers and the Zero 16 Campaign to End Veteran Homelessness. As part of the Montgomery County's Fiscal Year 2016 budget, the County Council approved an appropriation by the County Council in the amount of \$500,000 was approved to provide housing and supportive services to functionally end Veteran homelessness in the County. The funding is reoccurring every year and is available to Veterans who have received less than an honorable discharge and are therefore not eligible for VA programs. The County has received 98 VASH vouchers between the years of 2010- 2016, each worth \$13,122 or \$1.2 M per year in housing subsidies.
7. The Commission supports the important work of the Silver Spring Vet Center. Operated by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Vet Centers provide free readjustment counseling to combat veterans and their families to help with the transition from military to civilian life. Counseling can help with issues such as employment assessment, PTSD, sexual trauma, substance abuse, and screening and referral for medical issues such as traumatic brain injuries and depression. The Silver Spring Vet Center's telephone number is 301-589-1073 and is located at 2900 Linden Lane, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Mike Subin of the Commission worked with the Department of Transportation and CSX to make public transportation and the railroad crossing accessible.

## COUNTY VETERAN TIMELINE 2009 TO 2017 CONTINUED

8. The Commission supports the work of Serving Together, which is a collection of local community-based resources for veterans, service members and their families. Its goal is to provide clear guidance on how to access the care and support veterans need. This includes support during transition to the civilian world and job placement. ([www.servingtogetherproject.org](http://www.servingtogetherproject.org))
9. The County's Office of Human Resources agreed to partner with the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs when they launched Operation Hire July 1, 2015. The mission of Operation Hire Maryland is to create an ongoing program which supports employers as they develop or expand upon their Veteran hiring and retention initiatives. Through the collaboration and efforts of Operation Hire participants, a veteran friendly business network will be established to share best practices and proven methods for Veteran recruitment, hiring, on boarding, and retention in the civilian work place.
10. In October, 2015 County Cable Montgomery and the Commission launched a new monthly show called "Homefront" that provides information on topics and services for Veterans and their families living in the County. The 15 minute program is hosted by Mike Subin and airs on Comcast/RCN channel 6 and Verizon channel 30 on Sundays at 6:30 pm and 10:45 pm and on Fridays at 10:30 pm. The show is also available for viewing on deman on the County Cable Montgomery website at [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/ccm](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/ccm)
11. The Commission continually seeks job placement resources for Veterans and their families. It supports Bob Pelletier and the team at Montgomery Works -Partner of the American Job Center Networks and Tony Cancelosi of Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind for their work on Veteran hiring.
12. In observance of Veterans Day, the new Memorial Plaza located on the Government Complex Center Terrace between the new Courthouse annex and the Executive Office Building in Rockville along Route 28 was officially dedicated and the eternal flame unveiled on November 10, 2014. The ceremony was an opportunity for the County to show its appreciation and support for those people who put their lives on the line, domestically and abroad, to ensure our continued safety. Among those participating was retired Navy CDR Everett Alvarez Jr. of Rockville, who dedicated the POW flag. He was the first U.S pilot to be downed and detained during the Vietnam War and spent over eight years in captivity, making him the second longest held American POW, after U.S. Army Colonel Floyd James Thompson. The plaza is part of the Judicial Center Annex construction project that began in 2011 and involved an addition to, and renovation of, the existing Judicial Center, according to a county news release. The plaza and green spaces were redesigned to invite public use of the space. The area features a water fall, an eternal flame, new trees, benches and a Memorial Walkway to receive the plaques that were relocated from the original Memorial Garden to allow for the construction of the annex.
13. MOAA Transition Support to Veterans in Montgomery County Business and Networking Group (BANG) – The Military Officers Association of America Transition Group for Northern VA and Southern MD is concerned that military service members transitioning back into civilian life are unprepared when seeking employment. The Northern Virginia (NOVA) Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) Business and Networking Group (BANG) was created in 1996. BANG is a monthly program that provides business and networking assistance. Each month an employer is invited to speak about their company and offers assistance as well as accepting resumes. In addition, BANG sends out a weekly e-mail broadcast that provides employment opportunities, Veterans' updates, and job fair announcements. The group is open to non-military job seekers and networkers. The Montgomery County Chapter of the MOAA started BANG in Montgomery County and held its first meeting with students at Montgomery College on November 3, 2015. The Commission endorsed and supports this project of the Montgomery County MOAA of creating BANG in the County.
14. To honor our Veterans, the County, at the suggestion of the Commission, installed a digital TV display in the Rockville Memorial Library and a 55 inch digital display between the entry doors at the Silver Spring Civic Building at Veterans Plaza that show photos and names of those County residents from World War II to the present who were killed in action defending our Nation. The Silver Spring display also provides current announcements of Veteran- related activities. The Commission's staff maintains this display. There is also a display at the Rockville Memorial Library.

## COUNTY VETERAN TIMELINE 2009 TO 2017 CONTINUED

15. The Honor & Gratitude Salute to Vietnam Veterans was held on October 24, 2015 at the Universities of Shady Grove. Over 200 Vietnam Veterans and a crowd of over 800 attended this event that honored the service of Vietnam Veterans and Vietnam Era veterans. The event has been chosen by the City-County Communications Association (3CMA) as one of the top three special events held by local governments in the U.S. over the past year. We will learn in September if it is awarded first, second or third place. 3CMA is the nation's most prestigious organization of government communications officials
16. The Commission will continue its satellite meeting program whereby the Commission holds monthly meetings at different locations throughout the County. The Commission's November 2015 meeting was held at Leisure World, which will give Leisure World Veterans and their families an opportunity to directly address the Commission and learn more about County and state support.
17. In June, 2016 Joe Mornini, Executive Director, Team River Runner made a presentation on this Walter Reed kayaking program which takes place Sunday afternoons from May through November at Riley's Lock on the Potomac River. He explained how the boat launch area is not accessible and they often use the power boat launch which is not as safe as it should be. Betsy Luecking was able to put them in contact with Bob Green, ADA Compliance Manager for Montgomery Parks as they own some of that land. Drawings have been completed and funding has been applied for to the State. We will know in May, 2018 if the funding has been approved.
18. The Veterans Tribute Concert was held on November 14, 2017 at the Silver Spring Civic Building at Veterans Plaza. Dan Bullis was a featured speaker and they honored the military service of County Veterans and their families.
19. The Commission in its outreach to the County's 44,000 Veterans worked with Finance and the Public Information Office to design a property tax insert that was mailed out in June, 2016 to 42,000 households.
20. Through advocacy with the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs a Veterans Benefits Specialist was hired by the State to serve Montgomery County Veterans. This person works full time and is primarily housed at Montgomery College.
21. Though the advocacy of the Commission, Senator Chris Van Hollen and Senator Ben Cardin, the DCVA Medical Center is establishing a VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic which is located at 15810 Gaither Road, Gaithersburg, MD. The lease was awarded on April 11, 2016. The DCVA Medical Center have leased 11,600 square feet making it one of the largest in the State. The goal and hope is to co-locate other programs that serve Veterans and their families. There is 57,000 additional square feet that could be leased by other non-profits and government agencies. The Golden Hammer event took place September 19, 2016 at the location. It is anticipated that it will be open for business in early 2018.
22. The Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) is providing outreach services to veterans at the County's Crisis Center with an MOU from the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services, Behavioral Health Division. VAMC Homeless Outreach Staff are available for both drop in and scheduled visits. The VA are available to assist veterans by making referrals and connecting veterans who are eligible for VA services with the VA healthcare system.

Fatmata Kamara, VA Outreach Social Worker

E-mail: [fatmata.kamara@va.gov](mailto:fatmata.kamara@va.gov),

202-256-9261 (V)

Ken Barnum, VA Outreach Social Worker

E-mail: [kenneth.barnum@va.gov](mailto:kenneth.barnum@va.gov)

**Office Hours:** Monday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

(Staff alternate Mondays)

Aisha Clark, VA HUD VASH Senior Social Worker

E-mail: [aisha.clark@va.gov](mailto:aisha.clark@va.gov)

**Office Hours:** Wednesday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

## COUNTY VETERAN TIMELINE 2009 TO 2017 CONTINUED

23. The Commission hosted an event with Mike Love, founder of the Beach Boys at the American Legion for Veterans on May 31, 2016. Max Cleland contacted the Commission to let us know that his friend Mike Love would be in town for the Concert on the Capitol lawn on Memorial Day, 2-016. Mike wanted to meet with Veterans to share his experience with Transcendental Meditation (TM). Mike talked about TM and how it has helped him for the past 45 years with stress and wellness. He took the training in India in 1967 and the Beatles were there as well at the time. It was really an interesting evening as Commissioners Bill Gray and Wayne Miller talked about how they have used TM in their life. We had about 50 people and Montgomery Media there.
24. In June, 2017 the Commission wrote a letter to County Executive Ike Leggett to request support in establishing a Vietnam War Memorial in the existing Wheaton Veterans Park. The Commission formed the Montgomery County Vietnam Veterans Memorial Project, which has developed several recommendations for establishing this memorial for your consideration. We owe this recognition not only to our fallen 131 who died during service in Vietnam, but to our County's Vietnam Veterans and their families. It will demonstrate our determined resolve and support for them. Over the next five years, we hope that the County will recognize all County residents who have been killed in action back to World War I and have memorials also located in the Wheaton Veterans Park for the Global War on Terror, Gulf War, Korea, World War II and World War I. It is the hope that it will be dedicated on Memorial Day 2018. On June 30, 2017 the County Executive approved the preliminary plan.
25. The Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinic opened in September, 2017, at the Easterseals Harry & Jeannette Weinberg Inter-Generational Center. The Cohen Clinic provides high-quality, accessible, and integrated behavioral health care to veterans and their families or caregivers. Their no or low-cost services are available to any person who has served in the U.S. Armed Forces, including the National Guard and Reserves, regardless of role or discharge status, and spouses or partners, children, parents, siblings, family caregivers and others. The Cohen Clinic uses evidence-based practices with a holistic approach to improve the quality of life for veterans and their families. Services are provided by trained and credentialed staff. Veterans and their family members are able to receive services individually and as a family unit at the same place with the same treatment team. The Cohen Clinic can also help connect veteran families to community resources and services, as necessary.  
  
Location: 1420 Spring Street, Suite 300, Silver Spring, MD 20910  
  
Hours: Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, 8:00am to 6:00pm; Wednesday, 8:00am to 8:00pm; Friday, 8:00am to 3:00pm; and the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month, 9:00am to 1:00pm.
26. There has been established a Mental Health Court and the Commission advocated that a Veterans docket be included. The Commission is very interested in providing support/mentoring to incarcerated Veterans and their families. The Commission recommends that the STEER and Sequential Intercept Model be used in the new Mental Health Court, but it can also functional independently, be used to identify Veterans and refer them to needed services. The goal of the Deflection Model project is to deflect low-risk individuals with substance use disorders (SUDs) away from the criminal justice system and directly into community-based treatment. This deflection model presents an evidence-based approach to providing individuals treatment for substance use and will have many benefits not only for the affected individuals, but also for their families and our communities, as well as Montgomery County's overburdened expensive criminal justice system. We are now working on having the key elements of a Veterans Docket be included in the Mental Health Court.
27. Over the years we have had some very interesting presentations that include presentations on Buffalo Soldiers, Jim Knotts, Vietnam Wall Director, Bikers Against Child Abuse, Elspeth Cameron Ritchie, MD, MPH, COL (ret), Chief, Mental Health, Community-Based Outpatient Clinics, and many others you can read up about in our posted annual reports at: [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cva](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cva)

# SNAPSHOT OF VETERANS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

Prepared by: Staff from Montgomery County Local Behavioral Health Authority and community partners, 10/19/17

## Veterans seen/calls for behavioral health referral (10/12/2017):

**Access to Behavioral Health** – FY 18 – 26 clients reporting they are Veterans. 1<sup>st</sup> QTR.

FY 17 – 88 clients reporting they are Veterans.

FY 16 – 68 clients reporting they are Veterans.

**Clarksburg VA Justice Outreach Worker** – 3 – 5 Veteran's clients seen per month.

**Clinical Assessments and Triage Services at Clarksburg** – FY 18 – 17 Veterans screened 1<sup>st</sup> QTR.

FY 17 – 41 Veterans screened.

FY 16 – 47 Veterans screened.

**Crisis Center VA Homeless Outreach** – 8 -12 Veterans seen per month.

**Cohen Veterans Clinic** – Opened in early September 2017 - initially 8 clients per week. Week of 9/25/2017 they saw 22 clients. (Count includes Veterans and family)

**Local Behavioral Health Authority** – FY18 – 7 Veterans assisted with behavioral health referrals 1st QTR.

FY17 – 40 Veterans assisted with behavioral health referrals.

FY16 – 26 Veterans assisted with behavioral health referrals.

**Maryland's Commitment to Veterans** – 1 - 2 non-VA, 2 - 3 VA calls per month for a total of 3-5 calls per month.

**Mental Health Court** – 2 Veterans served since inception in December 2016.

**Serving Together** – 10 – 15 calls per month for behavioral health.

**Silver Spring Vet Center**- 160 – 180 Veterans seen per month totaling 430 visits per month.

### 1. **How do we identify justice involved Veterans?**

All individuals are screened for Veteran status when they enter 7 Locks or Clarksburg. At 7 Locks they will be assessed by the Clinical Assessment and Triage Services team whereby treatment planning is initiated in preparation in case individuals are bonded out. If the Veteran will be sent to Clarksburg to await trial, then staff reach out to Karen Carrington who is the DC VA Justice outreach worker. Karen will work with the Veterans while they are at Clarksburg and will conduct aftercare planning and follow-up. Karen utilizes both VA resources and community resources.

### 2. **What circumstances get them deflected or diverted?**

STEER (Stop, Triage, Engage, Educate, and Rehabilitate) – If a Veteran is involved in a minor non-violent offence, (the list of charges is previously approved by the State Attorney's Office), while under the influence, the police has the option to avoid charging them (**deflection**) in lieu of a referral to treatment.

CATS (Clinical Assessment and Triage Services) – Incarcerated Veterans are recommended for release in lieu of detainment (**post booking diversion**) if they meet clinical criteria, accept services available in the community and are approved by the Pre-Trial Services Unit (not a threat to the community and likely to appear in court for care disposition).

CORP/MHC (Comprehensive Re-entry Project)/ (Mental Health Court) – These programs can engage the CJIS (Criminal Justice Information System) on behalf of Veterans who are amenable to behavioral health services and have their pending charges dismissed in lieu of successful participation in treatment. The States Attorney's Office is involved in approving the charges that are appropriate for **diversion** as they must first meet certain criteria (i.e. – not predatory behavior, threatening to the community, or sexual in nature).

## SNAP SHOT OF VETERANS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES CONT.

Prepared by: Staff from Montgomery County Local Behavioral Health Authority and community partners, 10/19/17

### 3. *What programs and services in the community are available?*

There are a range of Veterans services programs in the County. For behavioral health there is the Silver Spring Vet Center; the Cohen Veterans Clinic in Silver Spring which is free to all Veterans and families as well as to guard/reservists and families; Aspire Counseling in Gaithersburg that accepts Tri-Care; and All Day Medical Care in Gaithersburg which also accepts Tri-Care. There is a Veterans Safe Havens shelter, and we have VA homeless outreach staff who have hours at the Crisis Center on Monday and Wednesday mornings. Some Veterans with serious and persistent mental illness are eligible for services in the public behavioral health system. These services include outpatient mental health treatment, residential crisis services, targeted case management services, assertive community treatment, psychiatric rehabilitation, and supported employment. Further, the County offers a range of safety net services such as jail based addiction services, adult behavioral health services, and case management services which are also available to Veterans. Services also include addictions treatment at Avery Road as well as a range of addictions treatment services by non-profit providers in the County. There is a Veterans Services Officer at Montgomery College in Rockville who can assist Veterans with claims issues; and Montgomery College offers the Combat 2 College program for Veterans entering/re-entering college after military service. Combat 2 College provides a range of services and supports to help Veterans readjusting to academic life. For employment assistance there is the Maryland American Job Centers and the Veterans Staffing Network at Easter Seals. Further, the DC Veterans Affairs Medical Center plans on opening a Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) in early 2018 in Gaithersburg. The CBOC will provide somatic, behavioral health, and supportive treatment and services to the VA eligible Veteran community.

# VA SILVER SPRING VET CENTER SERVICES



## Readjustment Counseling Services

After war, some veterans experience psychological and social distress and difficulties in readjusting to civilian life. In 1979, the Department of Veterans Affairs established Vet Centers to assist Vietnam-era veterans with such problems. Congress later expanded Vet Center services to include combat veterans of other conflicts. These services are available at Vet Centers in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands and Guam.

### Services Available

- Individual counseling
- Marital and family counseling
- VA benefits assistance and referral
- Substance abuse counseling and referrals
- Primary health care for basic medical needs
- Pre-employment assistance and employment counseling
- Discharge upgrade information
- Community, social service and medical referrals
- Sexual trauma / harassment counseling (veterans of all eras)

The Vet Center also has a network of federal, state, city and community resources to help you. We will try to address any concerns or problems you bring to us.

At the Vet Center, you can expect help from professional counselors who will treat you with respect and understanding. Many of the counselors are also war veterans, so they understand your problems first hand, and have the training and skills to help solve them.

There is no charge for the assistance you receive at the Vet Center because of your sacrifices and efforts for this country. Veterans applying for assistance are asked to bring a copy of their Military Separation or Military Discharge (DD214) with them. As of September 2016 VA Vet Centers are now able to provide readjustment counseling to Veterans with dishonorable discharges.

**Vet Center Combat Call Center**  
1-877-WAR-VETS (927-8387)

**National Suicide Hot Line**  
1-800-273-8255 (Toll Free)

**Bereavement Counseling for  
Surviving Family Members**  
202-461-6530 (V)

## **Location and Hours of Operation**

2900 Linden Lane, Suite 100  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
301-589-1073 (V)

Monday: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday: 8:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Thursday: 8:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Second Saturday every month: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## **Eligibility**

### **War Zone Veterans - All Eras Including:**

#### WWII

Three eligible categories

European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal

(7 Dec 1941 to 8 Nov 1945)

Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal

(7 Dec 1941 to 2 Mar 1946)

American Campaign Medal

(7 Dec 1941 to 2 Mar 1946)

#### American Merchant Marines in

#### Oceangoing Service

7 Dec 1941 to 15 August 1945

#### Korea

27 June 1950 to 27 July 1954

(eligible for the Korean Service Medal)

#### Vietnam

28 Feb 1961 to 1 May 1975

#### Lebanon

25 Aug 1982 to 26 Feb 1984

#### Grenada

23 Oct 1983 to 21 Nov 1983

#### Panama

20 Dec 1989 to 31 Jan 1990

#### Persian Gulf

2 Aug 1990 to -

#### Somalia

17 Sept 1992 to -

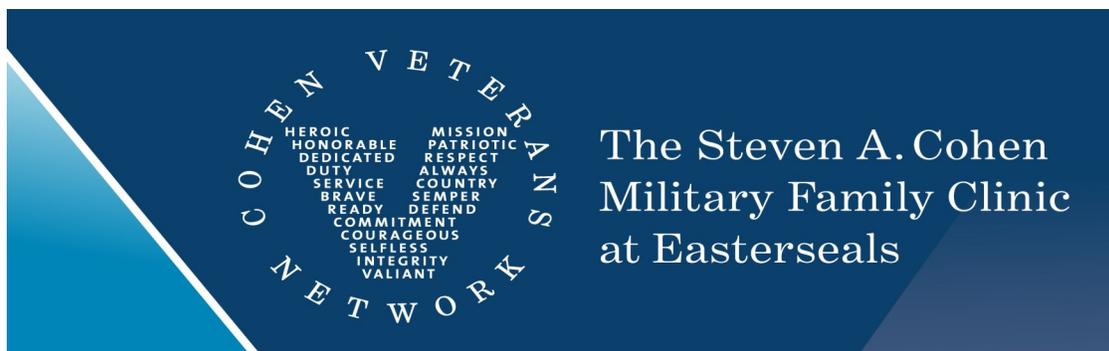
#### Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Albania

(former Yugoslavia operations)

#### Global War on Terrorism/OIF/OEF/OND

11 Sept 2001 -

# STEVEN A. COHEN MILITARY FAMILY CLINIC AT EASTERSEALS



The Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinic opened in September, 2017, at the Easterseals Harry & Jeannette Weinberg Inter-Generational Center. The Cohen Clinic provides high-quality, accessible, and integrated behavioral health care to veterans and their families or caregivers. Their no or low-cost services are available to any person who has served in the U.S. Armed Forces, including the National Guard and Reserves, regardless of role or discharge status, and spouses or partners, children, parents, siblings, family caregivers and others.

The Cohen Clinic uses evidence-based practices with a holistic approach to improve the quality of life for veterans and their families. Services are provided by trained and credentialed staff. Veterans and their family members are able to receive services individually and as a family unit at the same place with the same treatment team.

The Cohen Clinic can also help connect veteran families to community resources and services, as necessary.

**Location:** 1420 Spring Street, Suite 300, Silver Spring, MD 20910

**Hours:** Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, 8:00am to 6:00pm; Wednesday, 8:00am to 8:00pm; Friday, 8:00am to 3:00pm; and the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month, 9:00am to 1:00pm.

## What They Do

The highly-skilled clinicians at the Cohen Clinic treat a variety of behavioral health challenges, including:

- Depression
- Stress and anxiety
- Post-traumatic stress
- Substance misuse
- Sleep problems
- Hyper-vigilance (being on high alert)
- Anger
- Grief and loss
- Transitional challenges
- Relationship and family difficulties

## Case Management

Focus on meeting your needs to improve the quality of life with brief case management and resource connection.

- Caregiver support
- Child care
- Education
- Employment
- Housing
- Legal assistance
- Rehabilitation, occupation and/or physical therapies
- Peer support
- Personal finances
- Recreation
- Smoking cessation
- Transportation
- Wellness, health, nutrition, exercise

## Treatments

Brief evidence-based therapies, not intended for long-term treatment. Evidence-based therapies include:

- Cognitive processing therapy
- Cognitive behavioral therapy
- Motivational interviewing
- Integrative behavioral couples therapy
- Problem solving therapy
- Prolonged exposure therapy

Source: <http://www.easterseals.com/DCMDVA/our-programs/cvn-home.html>

# KEY CONTACTS FOR THE VA AND OTHER RESOURCES

**New Phone Number to Access VA Services:** 1-844-MyVA311 (1-844-698-2311) is a go-to source for Veterans and their families who don't know what number to call. More information: [www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/32858/myva311-one-number-call-reach-va](http://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/32858/myva311-one-number-call-reach-va)

## REQUESTING YOUR DD-214

**Whenever a veteran requests benefits and services,** a copy of the individual's discharge papers are required to verify eligibility. This includes admission to Charlotte Hall Veterans Home, Maryland's five cemeteries, VA claims and a myriad of other services provided to veterans and their families. Veterans and their next of kin can request a copy of the service member's DD-214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty from the National Archives. You can request the DD214 online via their website - [www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records](http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records). Click on the link "Submit your request online". You can also make a request by sending a letter to **The National Archives & Records Administration** at 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740. For questions, please call 1-866-272-6272 (Toll Free).

## BENEFITS ASSISTANCE - MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (MDVA)

Montgomery College Service Center 240-567-5405 (V)  
Michelle Morgan-Bey, Veterans Benefits Specialist (VBS) 240-567-4361 (FAX)  
51 Mannakee Street, Counseling and Advising Building, Room CB 103, Rockville, MD 20850  
E-mail: [michelle.morgan-bey@maryland.gov](mailto:michelle.morgan-bey@maryland.gov)

**EFFECTIVE MAY 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017:** Michelle Morgan-Bey, VBS, began working at the Montgomery College Service Center Monday through Friday, 7:30am to 4:00pm. **Outreach Hours:** Ms. Morgan-Bey will be at the Silver Spring Vet Center (2900 Linden Lane, Silver Spring, MD 20910) the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of each month from 8:00am to 4:00pm. **Please note:** while walk-ins are accepted at both locations, to ensure you are seen please call ahead to schedule an appointment.

Phil Munley, Director, Veteran Service Program 410-230-4444 x 6457 (V)  
E-mail: [phillip.munley@va.gov](mailto:phillip.munley@va.gov) 1-800-446-4926 x 6457 (Toll Free)  
[www.veterans.maryland.gov](http://www.veterans.maryland.gov)

The MDVA Service and Benefits Program provides assistance to the men and women who served in the Uniformed Services of the United States, their dependents, and survivors in obtaining benefits from the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Dept. of Defense, State of Maryland and other programs for veterans and their families.

## HOMELESS OUTREACH AT PICCARD - DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER (VAMC)

1301 Piccard Drive, Room 1005 - Rockville, MD 20850

DCVAMC is providing outreach services to veterans at the County's Crisis Center. DCVAMC Homeless Outreach Staff are available for both drop in and scheduled visits. The VA will be available to assist veterans by making referrals and connecting veterans who are eligible for VA services with the VA healthcare system.

- Fatmata Kamara, VA Outreach Social Worker  
E-mail: [fatmata.kamara@va.gov](mailto:fatmata.kamara@va.gov), 202-256-9261 (V)  
Ken Barnum, VA Outreach Social Worker  
E-mail: [kenneth.barnum@va.gov](mailto:kenneth.barnum@va.gov)  
**Office Hours:** Monday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
(Staff alternate Mondays)
- Aisha Clark, VA HUD VASH Senior Social Worker  
E-mail: [aisha.clark@va.gov](mailto:aisha.clark@va.gov)  
**Office Hours:** Wednesday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

## SERVING TOGETHER — WHERE VETERANS FIND LOCAL RESOURCES FOR THE MISSION AHEAD

Jennifer Watson, Peer Navigator 301-738-7176 (V)  
E-mail: [peernavigator@servingtogetherproject.org](mailto:peernavigator@servingtogetherproject.org) 1-855-738-7176 (Toll Free)  
[www.servingtogetherproject.org](http://www.servingtogetherproject.org) **Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

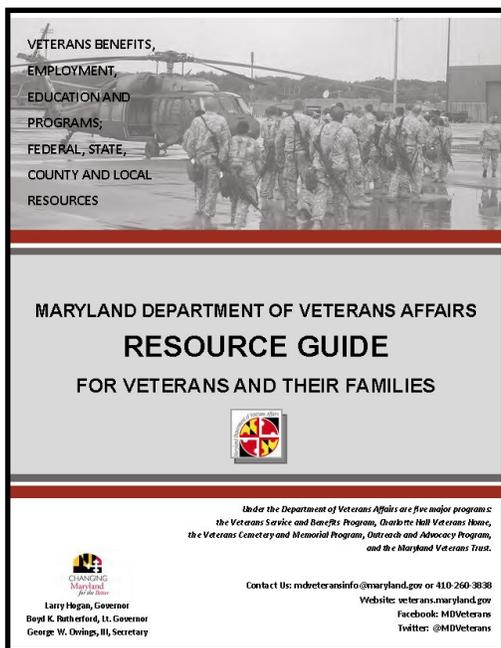
Peer navigators work to guide military, veterans and their families through a sometimes complicated and fragmented system of resources and information in Montgomery County, MD. They also work to connect the Montgomery County community with veteran events. You can view the event calendar on their website.

## EMPLOYMENT - WORKSOURCE MONTGOMERY - A PARTNER OF THE AMERICAN JOB CENTER NETWORKS

Bob Pelletier, Local Veterans Employment Representative (LVER) 301-929-4378 (V)  
11002 Veirs Mill Road, 1st Floor, Wheaton, MD 20901  
E-mail: [rpelletier@dllr.state.md.us](mailto:rpelletier@dllr.state.md.us)  
[www.worksourcemontgomery.com](http://www.worksourcemontgomery.com)

Conduct job search workshops and help veterans obtain training and placement services and find and retain jobs.

# MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS RESOURCES



The **Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) Resource Guide for Veterans and their Families** is designed to educate Veterans and their families, as well as those who serve them, on the benefits to which they may be entitled as a result of their military service. This comprehensive guide includes Federal, state, county and local resources on compensation and pension, benefits for Veterans with service-connected disabilities, services for combat Veterans, education, scholarships and grants, employment, housing, Maryland Homefront - The Veterans and Military Family Mortgage Program, VA home loans, homelessness, legal services, State tax exemptions, cemetery benefits, healthcare, and assisted living and nursing home care programs.

To view the guide online, please visit:

<http://veterans.maryland.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2017/04/4-12-17-Resource-Guide.pdf>

## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

### **Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs**

Office of the Secretary: 410-260-3838

Service and Benefits Program: 1-800-446-4926 x 6450

Charlotte Hall Veterans Home: 301-884-8171

Cemetery and Memorial Program: 410-923-6981

Outreach and Advocacy Program: 410-260-3842

Maryland Veterans Trust: 410-230-4444

### **United States Department of Veterans Affairs**

#### **Healthcare Eligibility and Enrollment:**

Central Maryland/Eastern Shore: 1-800-463-6295 x 7324

Western Maryland: 304-263-0811 x 3758

Southern Maryland/Montgomery/Prince Georges:

202-745-8251

#### **Medical Centers:**

Baltimore: 410-605-7000

Perry Point: 410-642-2411

Loch Raven: 410-605-7000

Martinsburg, WVA: 304-263-0811

Washington, DC: 202-745-8000

#### **Hotlines:**

The Veterans Crisis Line: 1-800-273-8255, press 1

Call Center for Homeless Veterans: 1-877-424-3838

Call Center for Women Veterans: 1-855-829-6636

Vet Center Combat Call Center: 1-877-WAR-VETS

VA Coaching Into Care: 1-888-823-7458

VA Caregiver Support: 1-855-260-3274

Maryland's Commitment to Veterans: 1-877-770-4801

Maryland Access Point: 1-844-627-5465

#### **Maryland Department of Human Resources:**

1-800-332-6347

#### **Maryland Health Connection:**

1-855-642-8572

#### **VA Community Resource and Referral Center**

Washington, DC: 202-636-7660

Baltimore: 410-637-3246

# MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD EMPLOYMENT DATA ON HIRING OF VETERANS, DISABLED VETERANS, AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

The Commission on Veterans Affairs and Commission on People with Disabilities worked with the County's Office of Human Resources (OHR) to establish employment initiatives which include hiring preferences for veteran, veteran with a disability, and person with a disability and a non-competitive hiring process for persons with disabilities, which was passed into law by Montgomery County voters in 2012.

Karen Hochberg, OHR, has reported that since the hiring preferences and non-competitive hiring process were implemented approximately:

	August, 2015	August, 2016	Sept/October, 2017
<b>New employees cumulatively hired</b>	211	235	287
<b>Non-competitive hires</b>	16	18	26
<b>People with disabilities</b>	21	26	36
<b>Veterans with disabilities</b>	8	9	16
<b>Veterans</b>	159	172	205
<b>Not specified</b>	7	10	4

**A Better Bottom Line** - Montgomery County Government video regarding the employment of people with disabilities and Veterans. Jonathan Pruziner served in Iraq and Afghanistan and came home to Become hired as a police officer with the Montgomery County Police Department. (YouTube):

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z-2A\\_PbxrqA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z-2A_PbxrqA) (6:27 version)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NWOYNkEWE5s> (11:42 version)



# PROJECTED NUMBER OF VETERANS IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

The U.S. Census Bureau, 2016, estimates that there are approximately **42,811 veterans living in Montgomery County, Maryland**. According to a 2016 American Community Survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, 7.4% of Americans self-reported as being a veteran. The Census Bureau defines veteran as men and women who have served (even for a short time), but are not currently serving, on active duty in the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or the Coast Guard, or who served in the U.S. Merchant Marine during World War II. People who served in the National Guard or Reserves are classified as veterans only if they were ever called or ordered to active duty, not counting the 4 to 6 months for initial training or yearly summer camps. All other civilians are classified as nonveterans.

Veteran Population of Montgomery County, MD				
Subject	2015		2016	
	Veterans	Total Population	Veterans	Total Population
Civilian Population 18 years and over	41,929 (5.3%)	793,175	42,811 (5.3%)	795,916
<b>Period of Service</b>	<b>Veterans</b>	<b>% of 41,929</b>	<b>Veterans</b>	<b>% of 42,811</b>
Gulf War II (9/2001 or later) veterans	9,942	23.7%	12,189	28.5%
Gulf War I (8/1990 to 8/2001) veterans	8,861	21.1%	10,562	24.7%
Vietnam era veterans	13,067	31.2%	11,316	26.4%
Korean War veterans	3,981	9.5%	3,189	7.4%
World War II veterans	3,125	7.4%	1,874	4.4%
Not Specified	2,953	7.0%	3,681	8.6%
<b>Gender</b>	<b>Veterans</b>	<b>% of 41,929</b>	<b>Veterans</b>	<b>% of 42,811</b>
Male	37,255	88.8%	36,611	85.5%
Female	4,674	11.2%	6,200	14.5%
<b>Age</b>	<b>Veterans</b>	<b>% of 41,929</b>	<b>Veterans</b>	<b>% of 42,811</b>
18 to 34 years	4,285	10.2%	5,972	14.0%
35 to 54 years	10,223	24.4%	9,977	23.3%
55 to 64 years	6,306	15.0%	7,110	16.6%
65 to 74 years	9,225	22.0%	9,971	23.3%
75 years and older	11,890	28.4%	9,781	22.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015 & 2016

# PROJECTED NUMBER OF VETERANS IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

## Montgomery County, MD Veteran Demographics - By City (2011 - 2015) United States Census QuickFacts only includes data for incorporated places with a population of 5,000 or greater.

Ashton-Sandy Spring	349
Aspen Hill	2,282
Bethesda	3,047
Burtonsville	361
Chevy Chase	527
Clarksburg	606
Damascus	830
Darnestown	207
Four Corners	413
Gaithersburg	2,773

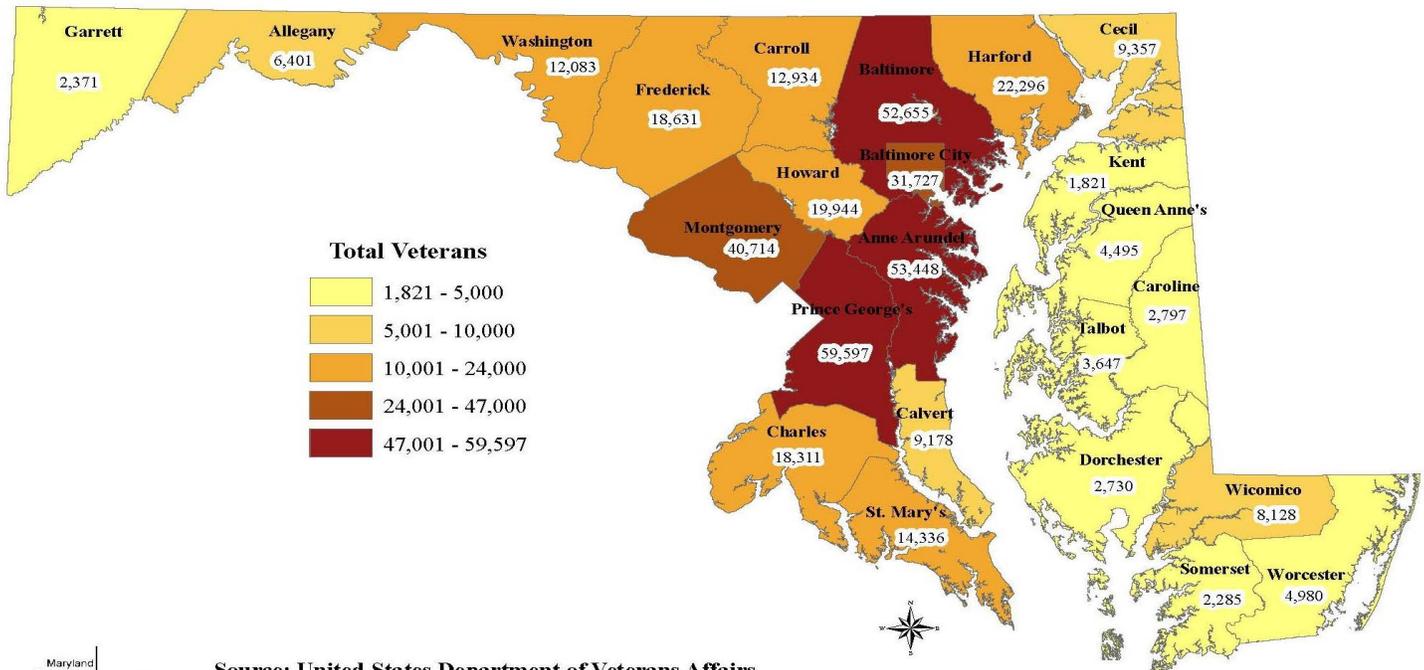
Germantown	3,078
Glenmont	453
Kemp Mill	551
Layhill	245
Leisure World	1,444
Montgomery Village	1,288
North Bethesda	2,374
North Kensington	439
North Potomac	793

Olney	1,630
Poolesville	212
Potomac	2,290
Rockville	2,878
Silver Spring	2,734
South Kensington	530
Takoma Park	557
Travilah	416
Wheaton	2,119

Source: U.S. Census QuickFacts 2011 - 2015

# PROJECTED NUMBER OF VETERANS IN MARYLAND

Projected Veterans in Maryland: 414,879



Source: United States Department of Veterans Affairs  
Map prepared for the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs  
by the Maryland Department of Planning



## MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (MOAA) INFORMATION



### MOAA March 2017 Dinner

From left to right: Bill Gray, founding Chair, Commission on Veterans Affairs (CVA), Dan Bullis, Chair, CVA, Air Force Lt. Gen. (Ret) Dana Atkins, President, MOAA, and Jerry Godwin, former Chair, CVA

## HOW MANY UNIFORMED SERVICES RETIREES LIVE IN THE COUNTY?

Colonel Harvey T. Kaplan, U.S. Army (Ret.) Vice President, Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) MD, reports that in Montgomery County, the number of Uniformed Services retirees from all 7 of our Uniformed Services can be estimated from the "yardstick" we have been using for the entire State of Maryland for many years. It is approximately 1/11 of the Veteran population. If you wish to accept the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs figures, then divide your total by 11. If I had to come up with a good estimate on the spot, I'd say use the figure 3,900 for the number of retirees in Montgomery County. [Kindly note that there is not consensus on the VA figures, which are based on algorithm rather than an accurate count at predetermined intervals.]

There are seven (7) Uniformed Services and that they need to be spelled out in any legislation--to avoid inadvertently omitting any group that should be included: Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Public Health Service (USPHS Commissioned Corps), and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Commissioned Corps. The State of Maryland's General Assembly has had to correct such omissions in recent past legislation. Both the USPHS Commissioned Corps and the NOAA Commissioned Corps are headquartered in Montgomery County.

Captain Dave Peterson, NOAA (Ret), President, Montgomery County Chapter, MOAA, Commissioner, Maryland Veterans Commission reports that each year he receives a large listing from MOAA's national headquarters in Alexandria, which provides the names of MOAA members living in Montgomery County who are not also chapter members. The 2016 listing has 1837 names of retired officers from the seven uniformed services who live in Montgomery County. To that you can add about 100 members of their chapter, so in round numbers, there are 2000 retired officers in the County. The Commission will be contacting the Retired Enlisted Association to determine if they have a similar kind of listing, which would at least give a more complete picture of retired service members in our county.

## CONNECT WITH THE COMMISSION



Visit us on the web! Read Commission Agendas, Meeting Summary Minutes, testimony, and more!  
[www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cva](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cva)



Like us on Facebook! [facebook.com/MCGCVA](https://facebook.com/MCGCVA)



Sign up for eSubscribe to receive emails about Veterans information and resources.  
[www.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcg/esubscribe.html](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcg/esubscribe.html)



Sign up for emergency alerts from Alert Montgomery! Alert Montgomery is the official emergency communications service for Montgomery County, MD. During a major crisis, emergency or severe weather event, Montgomery County officials can send event updates, warnings and instructions directly to you on any of your devices. Sign up at <https://alert.montgomerycountymd.gov>.

## COMMISSION PRESENTATIONS FOR 2016 - 2017

- November, 2016:** **Post-Traumatic Stress: Factors leading to it, Current research, and Veterans Administration Efforts to Address Health & Wellness** – *Elspeth Cameron Ritchie, MD, MPH, COL (ret) Chief, Mental Health, Community-Based Outpatient Clinics, and Maria Llorente, MD, Chief, Mental Health Service, Washington DC VA Medical Center*
- An Introduction to Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD) Sexual Assault Unit Investigations and How They Work with the Sexual Assault Team & Family Justice Center** – *D/Sgt. Jordan Satinsky, Sexual Assault Unit, MCPD-Family Justice Center*
- 
- December, 2016:** **Public Affairs Outreach to County Veterans to Enroll in VA Healthcare Discussion** – *Jereme Whiteman, Assistant Director - Washington DC VA Medical Center*
- Overview of the Montgomery College Combat2College Program** – *Joanna Starling, ACSM EP-C Program Coordinator*
- 
- January, 2017:** **Overview of the Mission of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)** – *Dave Peterson, President, MOAA, Montgomery County Chapter, and NOAA Ret.; and Jim Dittbrenner, Montgomery County MOAA Business and Networking Group (BANG)*
- 
- February, 2017:** **Honoring Black History Month: Buffalo Soldiers and the History and Current Activities of the Buffalo Soldiers Central Maryland Group** – *Trooper Hardrick Crawford*
- 
- March, 2017:** **Stop, Triage, Engage, Education, and Rehabilitate (STEER), Veterans & Jail Addiction Services** – *Athena Morrow, LCPC, Manager, Adult Forensic Services, Behavioral Health & Crisis Services, Department of Health & Human Services*
- 
- April, 2017:** **Montgomery County, MD Vietnam War Era Honor & Gratitude Plaque to All Who Served and Memorial for Those Killed in Vietnam for Wheaton Redevelopment** – *Merlyn Reineke, Executive Director, Montgomery County Media, and Neil Greenberger, Legislative Information Officer, Montgomery County Council*
- Animal Services** – *Tom Koenig, Director, Animal Services Division, Montgomery County*
- 
- May, 2017:** **Bikers Against Child Abuse (B.A.C.A.) Maryland** – *Blue, Representative, BACA*
- 
- June, 2017:** **Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund Education Center at the Vietnam Wall, Display of Photos, and Items Left at the Wall** – *Jim Knotts, President and CEO*
- 
- September, 2017:** **Special Presentation: Bridging the Veteran and Non-Veteran World – “Is Anyone Listening?”** – *Paula J. Caplan, Ph.D. Associate, Hutchins Center, Harvard University*
- 
- October, 2017:** **Serving Veterans in the Court System** – *Robert Green, Director of Department of Correction and Rehabilitation (DOCR), and Dr. Raymond Crowel, Chief, Behavioral Health and Crisis Services*

## HOW TO CONTACT YOUR COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS



**County Executive  
Isiah Leggett**

The **County Executive** can be reached at:

Executive Office Building  
101 Monroe Street, 2nd Floor  
Rockville, MD 20850  
240-777-0311 (V)  
240-773-3556 (TTY)  
[ocemail@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:ocemail@montgomerycountymd.gov)



**Montgomery County Council**

The **County Council** can be reached at:

Stella B. Werner Council Office Building  
100 Maryland Avenue  
Rockville, MD 20850  
240-777-7900 (V)  
240-777-7914 (TTY)  
240-777-7888 (FAX)  
[county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov)

*Seated, left to right: Sidney Katz, Craig Rice, Hans Riemer and George Leventhal.  
Standing: Marc Elrich, Roger Berliner, Nancy Floreen, Nancy Navarro and Tom Hucker.*

---

**Isiah Leggett, County Executive  
Uma S. Ahluwalia, Director  
Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services  
Commission on Veterans Affairs  
401 Hungerford Drive, 4th floor  
Rockville, Maryland 20850  
240-777-1246 (V) or via MD Relay 711**

**Language translation and alternative formats of this report are available upon request.  
For additional information on the Commission, please call the telephone numbers or write to the  
address listed above or e-mail via the contact information listed below.**

*Montgomery County does not discriminate on the basis of disability in  
employment or in the admission or access to its programs or services.*

2016 - 2017 Annual Report Prepared By:

Betsy Luecking, *Community Outreach Manager*  
[betsy.luecking@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:betsy.luecking@montgomerycountymd.gov)

Carly Clem, *Administrative Specialist I*  
[carly.clem@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:carly.clem@montgomerycountymd.gov)